

# block by block

SUMMER 2005

Neighborhood Services  
City of Las Vegas  
Department

## BUILDING STRONGER NEIGHBORHOODS IN THE CITY OF LAS VEGAS

### Inside this edition:

2005 Citizens Academy .....	2
Centennial Cleanup .....	3
21 Neighborhood Assn. Grants .....	4
LV Largest Dog Park Opening .....	4
EVOLVE Program .....	5
Fair Housing Basics .....	5
Neighborhoods in Action .....	6
31 Youth Groups Funded .....	7
Grant For Historic Preservation .....	8
Historic Railroad Cottages .....	8
Take Back Our Streets March .....	9
World-Renowned Architect .....	9
Doing Business Downtown .....	10
Exhibit Celebrates Centennial .....	10
Federal Funding Usage .....	11
What's HOT! .....	11
Construction Begins .....	12
Important Numbers .....	12



### Las Vegas City Council

Mayor Oscar B. Goodman  
 Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese, Ward 3  
 Councilman Larry Brown, Ward 4  
 Councilman Lawrence Weekly, Ward 5  
 Councilman Michael Mack, Ward 6  
 Councilman Steve Wolfson, Ward 2  
 Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, Ward 1  
 City Manager Douglas A. Selby  
 Deputy City Managers:  
 Steve Houchens, Betsy Fretwell  
 Department of Neighborhood Services  
 Director Orlando Sanchez



*Citizens Leadership Academy Class of 2004.*

## Applications Available For 2005 Citizens Leadership Academy

Applications are currently being accepted for the second city of Las Vegas Citizens Leadership Academy (LVCLA).

The city created the LVCLA to educate citizens who want to increase their knowledge about local government operations and have a desire to become more involved in shaping and developing this community. In response to solicitations through the city's Web site, mailings, press releases and word-of-mouth, more than fifty applications were received for the first academy held in 2004. The LVCLA Selection Committee reviewed qualified applications and selected 25 based on:

- ★ Willingness to commit time and energy to complete the program.
- ★ Personal commitment to shape the future of the community.
- ★ Past volunteer and civic involvement.
- ★ Representation from the diverse residents and neighborhoods throughout Las Vegas.

Through the interactive workshops and facility tours, the Class of 2005 will enable participants to:

- ★ Gain insight into the purpose and function of municipal government.
- ★ Get a "behind the scenes" look at how Las Vegas provides services to all neighborhoods.
- ★ Get exposure to issues facing the city and develop an understanding of citizens' roles in government.
- ★ Learn ways to partner with the city to develop creative and insightful solutions to community issues.

# 2005 Citizens Leadership Academy (cont.)

Of the 24 citizens who participated in the first city of Las Vegas Citizens Academy, ten were neighborhood/homeowner association presidents or actively involved in their associations. Without exception, all participants found this to be extremely worthwhile and they recommend it as an opportunity to learn firsthand about the multitude of services provided by city government. Read below for their individual comments and tentative class schedule.

**Doug DeMasi**, *Downtown Central Development Committee*, highly recommends that all residents who want to become more involved in the community apply for and experience the LVCLA.

**Mike Gural**, *President, Four Winds HOA*, formerly active in the Northwest Network, wholeheartedly recommends the LVCLA to every Las Vegas resident who truly loves this town, has a desire to learn about the inner workings of this town and wishes to immerse themselves in the training of others and the proper growth of our town.

**Melvin Henkin**, *former treasurer of the Northwest Network of Neighborhoods* said the exposure to the different department heads and others doing important work for the city gave him an opportunity to realize how involved and complex their work is.

**Stephen Hoopes**, *President of the Mystic Valley HOA*, found it fascinating just how much is required to run a city government. He found a new appreciation for the people and what they do.

**Pam Kowalski**, *President of the Southridge Neighborhood Association*, found all the topics interesting and informative. For her, one of the most fascinating was the "Waste Water and Water Treatment" session. She strongly recommends this program to anyone who seeks a better understanding of what is involved in the operation of our city.

**Chris Salm**, *President of the West Circle Neighborhood Association*, said "I wish all of my neighbors could take this class. I have a much greater appreciation for the quality of Las Vegas services and I'm sure anybody who took the class would feel the same way."

**Joseph Sayles, Sr.**, *who has long been active in the West Las Vegas community*, says "This academy is a top-notch operation, and the type of hands on, in your face, and your nose (the water treatment visit) experience is invaluable."

**Donna Touissant**, *President of the West Sahara Community Association*, said "The leadership academy gave me the chance to widen my horizons, get a better understanding what each and every department in the city does and who is responsible for what. It seems that the more I learn the more I realize I need to learn more."

**Greg Touissant**, *Board of Directors of the Lakes Association* said his participation in the LVCLA was a tremendous experience. He said he learned so much about how our city government operates and how things get done. He believes the skills he developed will enable him to be a more effective community leader.

**Jean Zorn**, *President, Rancho Manor Neighborhood Association*, said one of the best points was meeting the other attendees and the staff members. The reference books and materials will be invaluable in the future in working with her association.

**Interested citizens can go online to [www.lasvegasnevada.gov/citizensacademy](http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/citizensacademy) or call 229-6501. Completed applications must be submitted before July 15, 2005 at 5 pm by mail, fax or in person.**

## Following Is A Draft Of The Tentative Schedule For The 2005 Citizens Leadership Academy:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| ❖ <b>Opening Reception</b><br>Tuesday, September 6, 2005,<br>6:00 to 7:30 pm  | ❖ <b>Water &amp; Wastewater Treatment</b><br>Saturday, October 1, 2005,<br>8:00 am to 2:00 pm | ❖ <b>Tourism &amp; Economic Development</b><br>Saturday, October 22, 2005,<br>8:00 am to 12:00 pm |
| ❖ <b>Government 101</b><br>Tuesday, September 13, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm    | ❖ <b>Infrastructure &amp; Transportation</b><br>Tuesday, October 4, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm  | ❖ <b>Neighborhood Services</b><br>Tuesday, October 25, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm                   |
| ❖ <b>Government 102</b><br>Tuesday, September 20, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm    | ❖ <b>Parks &amp; Leisure Activities</b><br>Tuesday, October 11, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm      | ❖ <b>Growth &amp; Development</b><br>Tuesday, November 1, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm                |
| ❖ <b>Public Safety 101</b><br>Tuesday, September 27, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm | ❖ <b>Public Safety 102</b><br>Tuesday, October 18, 2005,<br>6:00 to 9:00 pm                   | ❖ <b>Graduation</b><br>Wednesday, November 2, 2005,<br>8:30 to 10:30 am                           |



# Downtown Clean Up Prepares City For Centennial Celebration Activities In May



During three Saturdays in April, more than 500 volunteers participated in the city's first annual downtown clean up in preparation for the Centennial Celebration birthday activities in May. On April 16, student volunteers and Gateway District Association members spruced up the area behind the Stratosphere Hotel, leaving several blocks sparkling clean. On April 30, the Downtown Business Operators Council and volunteers focused their efforts on the area of Fremont near 15th streets. More than 15 downtown neighborhoods were impacted by the clean up scheduled on April 23. Thanks to 100 individuals from Albertson's Stores and approximately 400 youth and adult members of the Church of Latter Day Saints, debris, trash, and weeds were removed from approximately 3.5 square miles of the downtown. In the Hillside Heights neighborhood, 21 homes were adopted—their front-porch appeal greatly improved. In the West Circle neighborhood, youth volunteers delivered 400 brochures that explained codes pertaining to home maintenance issues.

The 15 downtown neighborhoods benefited from the removal of 211 tons of trash, 46 refrigerators, numerous large appliances (washing machines, dryers, dishwashers, etc.), a jacuzzi, construction materials and furniture by Republic Services, one of the clean up's major corporate sponsors.

While volunteers spent the morning cleaning these neighborhoods, other volunteers began planting shrubs and plants at Circle Park. The planting project was the culmination of several months of coordination among the city of Las Vegas Neighborhood Services and Field Operations departments, the Huntridge Neighborhood, the UNLV School of Landscape Architecture,



members of the Nevada Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and other numerous businesses, which provided the goods and services to make this planting project a reality. As a thank you, the West Circle Neighborhood Association and Las Vegas Centennial Committee hosted lunch for all volunteers at Circle Park. Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese thanked everyone involved for their efforts and the impact it made in these neighborhoods rich with history.



# 21 Neighborhood Associations Receive Grants To Improve Their Communities

Residents throughout the city will be celebrating City Council consideration of 21 community projects funded by the Neighborhood Partners Fund (NPF) program. Five neighborhood beautification and physical enhancement projects, one boat parade of lights, one back-to-school youth event, and two safety and security projects are being planned this year. Additionally, nine neighborhoods will initiate communication and capacity-building projects to help residents interact with other residents and, in turn, develop stronger neighborhoods. Three senior complexes will help their residents with recreation and social projects to help seniors maintain their contact with the outside world. Since 1998, the NPF program has funded 149 neighborhood projects with \$575,000 and has leveraged almost \$1,501,617 in volunteer labor, cash and professional services for this funding. The projects translate to a \$2 million impact on the quality of life in our city neighborhoods.

On July 6, Las Vegas Council will consider the following neighborhood association projects for fiscal year 2006:

- ◆ **Aida Brents Resident Council** ~ Social and Recreational Project
- ◆ **American West Village II** ~ Pool Safety and Security Project
- ◆ **Appaloosa** ~ Beautification and Enhancement Project
- ◆ **Archie Grant Resident Council** ~ Laundry Rooms for Seniors
- ◆ **Arts District** ~ Branding Campaign
- ◆ **Berkley Square** ~ Communications and Signage
- ◆ **Carriage Park** ~ Community Signs
- ◆ **Cultural Corridor Coalition** ~ Second Saturdays in the Corridor
- ◆ **Gateway District** ~ Communications Project
- ◆ **Hillside Heights** ~ Communication and Capacity Building Project
- ◆ **Laguna Bay Association** ~ Circle Enhancement Project
- ◆ **Lakes Association** ~ Lakes Festival of Lights
- ◆ **Meadows Neighborhood Preservation** ~ Neighborhood Beautification Project
- ◆ **Peccole Ranch** ~ Pump N 5k Run
- ◆ **Rancho Manor** ~ Networking and Community Building
- ◆ **Rulon Earl** ~ Crime Deterrence through Communication and Education
- ◆ **San Marino Circle** ~ Gas to Electric Light Conversion
- ◆ **Sartini Plaza** ~ Recreation and Cultural Project
- ◆ **Stupak Resident Council** ~ 4th Annual Back-to-School Fair
- ◆ **Tanglewood** ~ Neighborhood Beautification Phase II
- ◆ **West Circle** ~ Communications Project

**For more information on the NPF program, please contact Maria Castillo-Couch at 229-6681.**

## Las Vegas' Largest Dog Park Opening

The public and their four-legged friends were invited to celebrate the grand opening of Las Vegas' largest dog park, Barkin' Basin, on Saturday, June 4.

Developed by KB Home for the city of Las Vegas, the 7.75-acre dog park is the largest of its kind in Nevada and west of the Rockies. The park is located in the north end of the Gowan Detention Basin at West Alexander Road and Tenaya Road adjacent to W. Wayne Bunker Park.

Over 23 doggie vendors were present offering current and potential dog owners pet adoption services, dog care information, coupons for products, snacks and more. Event attendees were also treated to demonstrations by the Las Vegas Marshal's K-9 Unit and obedience tips from Top Dog Doggie Academy. The Valley's furry friends were invited to participate in a variety of competitions including Smallest Dog, Cutest Attire and Best Pet Trick. Everyone who attended had the opportunity to receive free giveaways and doggie gift packs, and win a custom

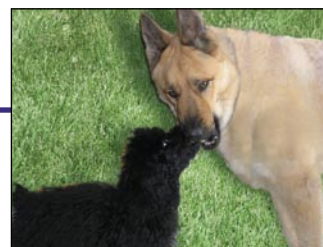
doghouse from KB Home.

"This park will be a real amenity to the neighborhood's dog owners," said Ward 4

Councilman Larry Brown, who represents this area of Las Vegas. "Dog parks enable the dogs to play unencumbered by leashes and give owners the ability to meet others in their community that share a love for animals."

Barkin' Basin features three rectangular dog runs, one for large dogs, one for smaller animals and a last run for use if one of the others is being repaired. It features shade shelters, walkways, benches and water fountains for both dogs and people. The trees in the dog runs provide shade and visual appeal to the surroundings while the layout features a large expanse where dogs can strut, run, play and get instruction from their owners.

For more information on Barkin' Basin, please call 229-1042.



# City's EVOLVE Program For Ex-Felons

## *Selected To Be Part Of National Program*

The city of Las Vegas, through its EVOLVE program for ex-felons, has been selected as one of only seven cities to participate in a national program to help individuals with barriers to employment secure permanent jobs and progress toward self-sufficiency.

Neighborhood Services Department Director Orlando Sanchez and Allison Effner, program coordinator for EVOLVE, were in Washington, D.C., where the project was officially launched at the Annual Transitional Jobs Conference.

Through a competitive application process, the city will be part of a select group chosen to work with the National League of Cities' Institute for Youth, Education, and Families; the National Transitional Jobs Network; the Transitional Work Corporation; and the Center for Employment Opportunities to promote a common agenda. The city's EVOLVE program, through the Neighborhood Services Department, will receive 18 months of technical assistance and access to national experts. This will provide the opportunity to work with other cities and local community partners to explore options for temporary job and training to improve long-term employment for ex-offenders and others in the community.

"The timing of this project couldn't be better, as the City Council and I have requested that the EVOLVE program be expanded to include chronic inebriates and the homeless, as well as ex-offenders," Mayor Oscar B. Goodman said. "Assisting these hardest-to-serve populations in securing and retaining employment is challenging. The technical assistance provided through this project will enable the city to take advantage of best practices from across the country."

In 2003, the city created the EVOLVE program to address the critical public safety issues and excessive government costs resulting from the increasing number of prisoners released in Southern Nevada without resources. The program assists

unemployed and underemployed ex-offenders achieve self-sufficiency through intensive case management, education, training and treatment.

A majority of inmates leaving prison return to Las Vegas with no savings, no access to stable housing, no health or unemployment benefits and extremely limited employment options.

In its two-year history, more than 1,929 ex-felons have accessed the program's resources. EVOLVE has provided intensive services to 265 clients and has successfully placed 70 percent of participants in employment at an average hourly wage in excess of \$11. The documented recidivism rate for ex-offenders participating in the EVOLVE program is 10 percent; nationwide, that figure is between 66 and 80 percent. With this additional help, the likelihood of continued success is greatly enhanced.

"The selection of the city of Las Vegas to participate in the Transitional Jobs Project is testimony to the success of the EVOLVE program and its cutting-edge approach in working with ex-offenders to reintegrate and welcome them into society," said Ward 5 Councilman Lawrence Weekly. "I am proud of the city and its efforts to take the lead in this important program and welcome the other local municipalities to actively participate in this program as it is a regional issue that must be addressed."

The Transitional Jobs Project is funded through grants to the National Transitional Jobs Network from the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts and the Rockefeller Foundation. The National League of Cities, the oldest and largest national organization representing municipal governments throughout the United States, serves as a resource and advocate for 18,000 cities nationwide.

## Fair Housing Basics Seminar

In 2003, the city contracted with BBC Research & Consulting to prepare a fair housing impediment study. It was recommended by the consultant that the city of Las Vegas implement an aggressive education and training program about fair housing issues for landlords and property managers.

The city contracted with William Thorne, president of the Community Housing Resource Board, to conduct a fair housing seminar. The seminar was held on April 19, 2005, at the East Las Vegas Community/Senior Center and was attended by more than 50 local property managers and landlords.

Topics included:

- Federal Fair Housing Act – Seven Protected Classes
- Equal Credit Opportunity Act and Fair Credit Reporting Act
- Aged Qualified Communities
- Persons With Special Needs
- Service members Civil Relief Act of 2003

Mr. Kenneth LoBene, Las Vegas HUD Field Office Director also spoke concerning fair housing activities in Southern Nevada.

# NEIGHBORHOODS *in* action



Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese and Mayor Goodman stand under the new sculpture by Las Vegas artist Steven Liguori at the rededication of Mary Dutton Park ceremony.



Councilman Lawrence Weekly paints a tile for the Centennial Wall at the recent National Youth Service Day event.



Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Springs Preserve.



Dawn Blinder, Clark County Commissioner Lynette Boggs McDonald and Councilman Steve Wolfson turn on the new signal at Homestretch and Hualapai.



Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian, Congresswoman Shelley Berkley and Mayor Oscar B. Goodman at the National Youth Service Day event.



Councilmen Steve Wolfson and Larry Brown at the groundbreaking ceremony for the Anasazi bridge.



Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Maria Castillo-Couch of Neighborhood Services and Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese attend the Centennial clean up.



Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Deputy City Manager Betsy Fretwell and Councilman Lawrence Weekly recognize longtime employees and box holders at the closing of the downtown post office.



Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian and Councilman Lawrence Weekly accept a check from Wal-Mart for LV Metro Police Dept. during the "Take Back The Streets" event.



Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian meets with the Richfield Neighborhood Association members.



Councilman Larry Brown at the opening of the emergency access road into Sun City Summerlin.



Councilman Lawrence Weekly rewarding Matt Kelly students for successfully completing creative book reports.

# 31 Youth Groups Funded To Improve Their Neighborhoods

On February 16, 2005, the Las Vegas City Council awarded grants to 31 youth groups throughout the city to create and implement projects to serve their neighborhoods.

Each year, the city of Las Vegas Neighborhood Services Department's Youth Neighborhood Association Partnership Program (YNAPP) offers mini-grants of up to \$1,000 to community-minded youth who have a desire to improve and serve their communities. Youth are challenged to take ownership of their neighborhoods and partner with neighborhood associations, to create projects that will improve the quality of life for their fellow residents and make the improvements a reality

with YNAPP funding.

This year, 31 groups met the challenge, applying for funding for projects ranging from neighborhood tutoring programs to neighborhood clean ups. In return for YNAPP funding, grant recipients pledged a community match of over \$143,000 in volunteer labor, in-kind and cash donations.

"This program is not about the \$31,000 the city is awarding, or what the groups bring to the table as a match," said Director of Neighborhood Services Orlando Sanchez. "This program empowers over 1,000 youth each year to become leaders in their communities and makes their dreams of bettering our city a reality."

## The City Council approved funding for the following youth projects:

**Mirabelli Teen Tutors** - The Teen Tutors will tutor youth at O.K. Adcock Elementary who need help reaching achievement benchmarks.

**Teens Affecting Challenged Youth (YMCA)** - Youth will host a formal dance for teens with moderate mental challenges.

**CCHS-West Student Council** - Youth will plant desert landscaping in front of their school modules to improve the appearance.

**Positive Actions (Clark HS)** - High school youth will visit middle schools to encourage youth to do community service.

**We Pay To Play (Mirabelli)** - Youth will host a dance for parents and grandparents and provide them with babysitting services to give them a night out away from their children.

**Youth Together (Stupak)** - Youth will help three families from their neighborhood have a memorable holiday by providing them with food, clothing and toys.

**Tomorrow's Leaders** - Youth will provide fun math and science workshops for neighborhood children.

**Griffith Elementary** - Youth will host science workshops after school to promote scientific knowledge to 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Wasden Elementary** - Youth will host a neighborhood cleanup to remove trash and debris and paint over graffiti in their neighborhood.

**Teen Leaders of the Future** - Youth will host a bowling fundraiser to raise money and awareness for Lupus.

**Veteran's Memorial Teen Scene** - Youth will create a community-recycling project to educate residents on the importance of recycling.

**Morris Academy** - Youth will tutor middle school students in their school's behavior program.

**Fremont Family Writing Project** - Youth will paint a mural and expand a community garden to improve their school's appearance.

**Rafael Rivera Youth Council** - Youth will provide an after school fun event in the park for neighborhood youth.

**Student Organization of Latinos (SOL)** - Youth will create gift baskets for teens and children in a local hospital.

**Hollingsworth Elementary** - Youth will create and send care packages to the military serving overseas.

**Bracken Teen Club** - Youth will paint a mural on a wall in their neighborhood to remove and prevent graffiti.

**Engineering Design Group** - Youth will build a robot to introduce different fields of science to interested youth.

**Lummis Elementary** - Youth will have a toy drive to collect donations for a preschool serving low-income families.

**Fostering Kids (Lummis)** - Youth will share their experiences from the foster care system by writing and publishing books.

**Becker Teen Scene** - Youth will host a mini-carnival to raise money for the Leukemia Foundation.

**Second Baptist** - Youth will host six days of workshops and activities to keep neighborhood children out of trouble during spring break.

**Beyond the Star (Gibson)** - Youth will visit with the seniors of the Archie Grant Park senior center and provide them with games and activities.

**Matt Kelly Elementary** - Youth will serve a meal at the Las Vegas Rescue Mission and host a donation drive at their school to collect needed materials.

**Advanced Technologies Academy NHS** - Youth will host a "prom" for neighborhood senior citizens, bringing two generations together to learn more about each other.

**Blazin' Onez Youth** - Youth will host a basketball clinic for individuals with disabilities.

**West Community Center Youth Council** - Youth will create baskets containing food and gifts for needy families for the holidays.

**Youth Encouraging Seniors** - Youth will hand out personal care items to low-income seniors.

**Steppers for Success (West)** - Youth will host an event to teach others about the history of Las Vegas promote community unity and help celebrate Las Vegas' 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

**Y. Get P.E.P** - Youth will purchase school supplies and have a school fair in the middle of the school year for youth who may not be able to refill their school supplies.

**Amanda Aikens** - Youth will create and produce a play about Helen J. Stewart to bring awareness to the community and to celebrate Las Vegas' 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**YNAPP funding is available during the fall of each year. To apply for funding, all applicants must partner with a registered neighborhood association, submit a written application and then make oral presentations to the YNAPP Grant Review Board. The YNAPP Board consists of youth and adults working side by side to review applications and presentations, and determine which groups should receive funding. For more information, contact: Jocelyn Bluit-Fisher, YNAPP coordinator at 229-6269.**

# City Of Las Vegas Receives *Grant Monies For Historic Preservation Projects*

**T**he city of Las Vegas was recently awarded a \$32,000 grant from the National Park Service to help promote historic preservation in the city. The money will be used to implement certain goals and objectives recommended by the city of Las Vegas Historic Preservation Commission.

The grant was administered by the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, through the Historic Preservation Fund.

The grant will fund projects such as training for the commissioners, updating the Historic Preservation Plan to redefine goals and objectives, compiling information on the locations and collections of the city's museums' and libraries' historic resources, creating public information campaigns via educational materials and walking tours, and assisting with the development of the historic downtown post office.

Each year, the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office offers grants to qualified parties for a variety of projects dealing with Historic Preservation and Archeology. The office reviews all grant applications on a competitive basis, awarding funds to projects that best reflect the state historic preservation need and special conditions mandated by the National Park Service.

The Historic Preservation Commission, a city board made up of community members who make recommendations to the Las Vegas City Council, is responsible for hearing and recommending approval for designation of historic landmarks, properties and districts to the city's register; and overseeing alterations, new construction and demolition of designated properties or properties within the designated district. Members of the commission are appointed by the City Council. The board is staffed by the city of Las Vegas Planning and Development Department.

For more information regarding how to apply for these funds, contact Kelly Osborne, Nevada State Historic Preservation Office, (775) 684-3446. For more information on the city of Las Vegas projects, residents can contact Courtney Mooney, urban planning coordinator, at (702) 229-5260.

# Historic Railroad *Cottages Find New Home*

**T**he city of Las Vegas, along with its Historic Preservation Commission, the Las Vegas Springs Preserve and several nonprofit organizations have joined forces to move several of the city's remaining historic railroad cottages from the downtown area to a new home. The cottages are being relocated to the Las Vegas Springs Preserve, located at 1001 S. Valley View Boulevard, to make way for a mixed-use high-rise development. The cottage located at 604 S. Fourth Street is tentatively scheduled to be moved by the end of this week.

For this signature project of the 2005 Centennial year, nonprofit organizations including the Rotary Club of Las Vegas, the Cashman Foundation and the American Public Works Association have provided combined donations of more than \$100,000 and volunteer assistance. The Centennial fund will contribute \$60,000 to cover any additional expenses. The project is unprecedented in the state of Nevada, and when completed, will be a valuable asset to the interpretive historic and cultural exhibits at the Las Vegas Springs Preserve.

Between 1909 and 1911, 64 railroad cottages were built on four blocks in the downtown area for employees of the San Pedro, Los Angeles and Salt Lake Railroads. Today, 14 cottages remain, including one that has been relocated to the Clark County Heritage Museum. Five cottages on South Casino Center Boulevard were donated to the Las Vegas Springs Preserve by the owner, with three to be moved and two to be carefully dismantled for usable parts in the restoration of the others. The city is donating two cottages, with one to be moved and the other to be dismantled. The project is intended to recreate an interpretive historic exhibit by placing at least one of each type of cottage in a row with period landscaping and streetscape. It is not known yet when visitors will be allowed inside the buildings.

All cottages will be moved to the Las Vegas Springs Preserve by fall 2005 and placed at the final site by 2007. The restoration of the cottages will be funded by money received by the Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act, administered by the preserve and overseen by archeologist Gregory Seymour, who is responsible for the restoration of the historic pump houses, detention basins and other buildings at the preserve.

The Historic Preservation Commission, a city board made up of community members who make recommendations to the Las Vegas City Council, is responsible for hearing and recommending approval for designation of historic landmarks, properties and districts to the city's register; and overseeing alterations, new construction and demolition of designated properties or properties within the designated district. The members are appointed by the City Council. The board is staffed by the city of Las Vegas Planning and Development Department. The commission was involved in finding new homes for the cottages and their eventual restoration.

# Hundreds Turnout In Support Of The 2nd Downtown "Take Back Our Streets March And Celebration"

Las Vegas history in the making was the highlight Saturday, April 30, 2005 when Mayor Oscar Goodman, Councilman Lawrence Weekly, and Councilwoman Lois Tarkanian participated in the 2nd Downtown "Take Back Our Streets March and Celebration." As part of the Centennial History, more than 500 hundred supporters cleaned up the downtown area east of Las Vegas Boulevard, and assembled for a march from 15th Street and Freemont Street to 7th Street to the Super 8 Motel.

The march, which began with the Downtown Centennial Cleanup, had over fifty downtown community resident volunteers. The Color Guard led the wave of supporters followed by the Soul Brothers Motorcycle Club, the Desert Pines High School Mariachi Marching Band, Amistad Cristiana, Downtown Business Operators Council, US Vets, Hollingsworth Elementary School, Help of Southern Nevada, St. Johns Project, E.O.B. Outreach, AFAN, downtown residents and numerous other organizations. "It is exciting to see downtown residents and people from all walks of life interested and wanting to be a part of what is going on downtown," stated Earl White, event organizer.

City of Las Vegas Marshals teamed with the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD) Downtown Area Command officers to provide the safety and crowd/traffic control. After the eight-block march, Mayor Goodman



Mayor Oscar B. Goodman & Councilman Lawrence Weekly join participants and community members in the "Take Back Our Streets March and Celebration".

was introduced along with Council members Weekly and Tarkanian.

The celebration following the march included free hot dogs, refreshments, activities for the youth, live entertainment from the Checkmates and Steve Connelly performing a medley of hits of the King of Rock and Roll.

Event sponsors recruited by the Business Operators Council included Sam's Club, Wal-Mart, LVMPD, Clark County Health District, Rape Crisis Center, Friends and Families of Korean Veterans, Findley Toyota, RPS Corporation, EOB Path Program, city of Las Vegas and many others.

## World-Renowned Architect To Design Alzheimer's Research Center Building



The Walt Disney Concert Hall designed by Frank Gehry.

Frank Gehry, one of the most sought-after, internationally recognized and prolific architects and designers in the world, will design a research facility that will be built as part of a 61-acre downtown urban village.

Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman and Ward 5 Councilman Lawrence Weekly announced that Gehry will be the architect for the Alzheimer's Research Center being developed by Larry Ruvo, senior managing director for Southern Nevada Wine and Spirits.

The research center will be one of several projects that will make up a 61-acre urban village located west of downtown Las Vegas. The city of Las Vegas is currently in negotiations with The Related Companies to act as master developer for the 61-acre project that would include high-rise residential and commercial development, an academic medical center and a performing arts center, in addition to the Alzheimer's research center.

"This building being designed by Frank Gehry will be iconic," Mayor Goodman said. "It will be a piece of artwork that will draw people from around the world who will marvel at its beauty."

Ground is expected to be broken on the Alzheimer's clinic in the next year or two.

"When Donna and Bobby Baldwin and Camille and I started this journey 10 years ago, there was little awareness of Alzheimer's," Ruvo said. "We have succeeded in bringing significant awareness to this disease, and that's a good thing. Frank Gehry's involvement makes it a great thing."

Gehry's architectural career has spanned four decades and produced public and private buildings in America, Europe and Asia. His work has helped set the standard for current architecture. Gehry has designed more than 30 existing buildings such as the Vitra Museum in Weil am Rhein, the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, the Frederick R. Weisman Art Museum in Minneapolis and the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles.

Gehry has received numerous prestigious prizes and awards, including the Pritzker Prize, the world's most prestigious architecture award, in 1989. He has also received more than 100 awards from the American Institute of Architects to honor outstanding architectural design.

"Frank Gehry is one of the most inventive and pioneering architects working today," said Councilman Lawrence Weekly, who represents this area of Ward 5. "To have someone of his caliber design a building in our downtown really takes our city to the next level."

Marty Burger, executive vice president of The Related Companies, added, "We are very excited about Larry Ruvo engaging Frank Gehry in design of the Alzheimer's center. This will create an iconic building at the gateway of this new, urban, mixed-used development for downtown."

# City Of Las Vegas Making *It More Convenient To Do Business Downtown*

**D**on't have enough change for the parking meter? Tired of saving quarters? The city of Las Vegas is making residents' parking experience a little easier with new technology that will help downtown visitors avoid the hassle of needing change for parking meters.

Fifteen new multi-space parking meters will be installed this summer allowing those who work and visit downtown to pay their parking fees by credit card or by making a cell phone call.

Las Vegas will be the fifth city in the country to install these advanced meters, designed by the Reino Corporation and equipped with wireless technology. Each meter will monitor up to 10 parking spaces, and allow motorists to pay with coins or debit or credit cards.

Additional time can be purchased by using a credit or debit card by making a cell phone call, and motorists can even program the meter to call a cell phone when time is running short.

The new meters cost the city \$63,710 and are scheduled to be installed in July in the areas surrounding the Regional Justice Center, south of Bridger Avenue, along Third Street and Clark and Bonneville avenues.

The meters have English and Spanish modes, and are expected to enhance parking in the area in preparation for the opening of the Regional Justice Center, located at South Casino Center and Clark Avenue.

"We're trying to stay ahead of the curve on the parking situation in downtown Las Vegas," said City Manager Doug Selby. "These new meters will make it even easier for our customers to do business with the city and all this puts us on the cutting edge of this new technology."

The city's parking plan, drafted in 1999, has evolved to include the new meters that have been tested and proven in many European countries as well as in a number of major U.S. cities.



# Exhibit Celebrates *100 Years Of Las Vegas*

## **"Whistle Stop to Windfall: 100 Years in Las Vegas"**

is an new exhibit at the Clark County Museum, located at 1830 S. Boulder Hwy. in Henderson, south of Horizon Drive. The year-long Centennial exhibit featuring historic photographs, posters, memorabilia, clothing, artifacts and recreated scenes which bring Las Vegas to life, from its founding in 1905 as a tiny railroad town to the present.

Visitors to the exhibit will enter through a 1905-style tent saloon complete with bar. When Las Vegas officially began on May 15 with a public auction of lots, the railroad restricted the sale of liquor to Block 16. Already there were a number of makeshift saloons scattered around the area, and once the auction was completed, some of the first permanent structures to be built were saloons. Block 16 became a famous "red light" district with gambling and prostitution – although illegal, readily available.

The exhibit also features sections on hotels, education, law enforcement, the wedding industry with a model wedding chapel, Helldorado, the first volunteer fire department, a section on unique Las Vegas individuals with a chance to cast a vote for the viewer's favorite, and an interactive "Las Vegas Trivia" game.

The Helldorado portion of the exhibit is an opportunity for new Las Vegans to become acquainted with a community tradition that was revived in May, albeit without the rodeo. Helldorado spanned several decades and provided a shared experience with its multiple parades, whisker-growing contest and Western Village attraction. You may have read in the paper about the parade as well as the "whiskerino" contest held in conjunction with it. Mayor Pro Tem Gary Reese beat out Mayor Oscar Goodman by a "whisker."

Pioneer Anna Roberts Parks, the town's first female funeral parlor owner, is also featured. Anna arrived in Las Vegas in 1911 at the age of 22, and in the early '20s went to mortuary school in Los Angeles before returning to open Palm Mortuary. As well as a successful businesswoman, she was an avid collector of historical and Native American artifacts. After her death, her collection became the basis for today's Clark County Museum.

"Whistle Stop to Windfall" was researched and designed by Curator of Exhibits Dawna Joliff. The Clark County Museum is a function of Clark County Parks and Community Services, which is accredited by the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies. The museum is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for seniors and children. The museum also features a modern exhibit hall with a timeline exhibit about southern Nevada from pre-historic to modern times and a collection of restored historic buildings that depict daily life from different decades in Las Vegas, Boulder City, Henderson and Goldfield. The number for information is 455-7955.

# Neighborhood Services Dept.

## *Puts Federal Funding To Good Use*

The Neighborhood Services Department receives approximately \$11 million dollars a year in federal funds that are administered by the Neighborhood Development Division. These funds are used to create projects such as: affordable housing, community centers, public works improvements, affordable child care centers, and public services such as child care, life skills, social services and youth programs for low and moderate income city of Las Vegas citizens.

### *The city receives several different grants:*

- ◆ **Community Development Block Grant funds (CDBG)** are used for construction and rehabilitation projects in addition to providing funds to nonprofit agencies for services to low and moderate-income clients. Since 2000, the city has utilized more than \$3.8 million dollars to serve more than 294,000 citizens with services, and over \$5 million dollars for subrecipient new construction and rehabilitation projects.
- ◆ **HOME and Low Income Housing Trust Funds** are used to develop and construct affordable single and multi-family housing units. In addition, the city uses HOME funds to rehabilitate single-family and multi-family units for income eligible clients. Since 2000, the city has provided funding for 2,255 new multi-family units, 118 new single-family units and 801 rehabilitated units. HOME funds are also used for down payment assistance and tenant based rental assistance programs.
- ◆ **Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG)** are used to provide services to homeless clients for housing, essential services and prevention activities. Using funds like ESG and other sources, the city has utilized more than \$11 million dollars to provide housing, shelter and services to our homeless population.
- ◆ **Housing Opportunities for Persons With Aids (HOPWA)** provides housing and social services to clients with HIV/AIDS and their families. Since 2000, approximately 23,000 clients have been served.

Together with our nonprofit partners, Neighborhood Services is dedicated to changing the city one block at a time.

# What's HOT?

## *Downtown Las Vegas!*

An "urban renaissance" is sweeping downtown Las Vegas. With the establishment of the Entertainment District, the Arts District and the Cultural Corridor, along with the world-renowned Fremont Street Experience, developers all over the nation are taking a closer look at Las Vegas.



*The World Market Center close to completion.*

In particular, the city has selected The Related Companies, L.P. as the proposed developer for the city's 61 acres in downtown Las Vegas, known as "Union Park." Related is the only developer invited to continue with the second phase of the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, which includes offering a more detailed proposal of the site to the city.

Related has recently completed such high profile, mixed use projects as City Place, a 72-acre urban destination in West Palm Beach, and the \$1.7 billion Time Warner Center at Columbus Circle in Manhattan, which is regarded as a world landmark in mixed-use development. Related is already helping to reshape downtown's urban landscape, as co-developer and partner in World Market Center – the 57-acre home furnishings complex under construction on the site adjacent to Union Park.

Not only commercial developers are taking an interest but residential developers as well. High-rise lofts developers are flocking to the downtown area. Renaissance Towers, Soho Lofts, CityMark, Streamline Tower and Summit Residential have their site plans approved or are under construction and have hundreds of units for sale.

 [neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov)

#### **Block by Block Editors**

Stephen Harsin • Lisa Morris

#### **Newsletter Coordinator**

Mary Ann Price

#### **Graphic Design / Production**

Michael Campbell  
Graphic Arts Services

#### **Contributing Reporters & Photographers**

Neighborhood Initiatives • Neighborhood Response  
Neighborhood Development • Mayor and City Council Offices



# Important Phone Numbers

Mayor's Office..... 229-6241  
 City Council Office ..... 229-6405  
 City Manager's Office..... 229-6501  
 City Attorney..... 229-6201  
 City Clerk..... 229-6311  
 Sheriff's Office..... 229-3394  
 METRO (non-emergency) ..... 795-3111  
**Emergency ..... 911**

Fire Department..... 383-2888  
 Permits..... 229-6251  
 Planning & Development..... 229-6301  
 Leisure Services ..... 229-6297  
 Neighborhood Services  
 Department..... 229-2330  
 Neighborhood  
 Response Division..... 229-6615

Citizen Hotline ..... 229-6615  
 (graffiti, dangerous abatement, etc)  
 Neighborhood  
 Initiatives Division ..... 229-6269  
 Neighborhood  
 Development Division ..... 229-2555  
 EVOLVE Center ..... 638-6371



[neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov)



City of Las Vegas  
 Neighborhood Services  
 400 Stewart Avenue  
 Las Vegas, NV 89101  
 June 2005 • GA-17395

## Construction Starts On New Assisted-Living Community For Seniors Project Is First Of Its Kind In The Nation

Late last year, federal, state and local leaders broke ground on a unique, affordable assisted-living community for seniors on the northeast corner of Roland Wiley and Silver Sky in the city of Las Vegas, Ward 2. U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, Assemblywoman Barbara Buckley, Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Ward 2 City Councilman Steve Wolfson, officials from Harrah's Entertainment, Inc. and other affordable housing advocates were in attendance for the groundbreaking festivities.



*Groundbreaking at Silver Sky Assisted-Living site.*

The first project of its kind in the country, the 90-unit Silver Sky Assisted-Living Center is a pilot program created through the Clark County Public Lands and Natural Resources Act of 2002, which authorized the BLM to transfer

land to the city of Las Vegas solely to create additional affordable housing. Senator Reid introduced the Federal legislation that made the land transfer possible, the first time BLM land will have been used for affordable assisted living.

## Block by Block Needs Your Input!

Block by block is a quarterly newsletter published by the city of Las Vegas Neighborhood Services Department. It is designed as a tool to share information about neighborhood issues, services, programs and resources. All neighborhood associations registered with the city's Neighborhood Partnership Program will receive this newsletter quarterly. If you are aware of an organization interested in registering with this program, please contact the Neighborhood Initiatives Division at (702) 229-6269 or email us at: [neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov).



The contents of this newsletter may be reproduced in whole or in part, but must be credited to the city of Las Vegas, block by block. If you have pertinent information you would care to submit for a future edition, or an inquiry about the information presented in this publication, please call or write us at the City of Las Vegas, Neighborhood Initiatives Division, 400 E. Stewart Avenue, 2nd floor, Las Vegas, Nevada 89101 or email us at: [neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:neighborhoodsonline@lasvegasnevada.gov).